WISHARTs Dr David James Gibb. February – May 1919 (021)

DR. D. J. GIBB WISHART
2—4
BY APPOINTMENT

47 GROSVENOR STREET

TELEPHONE NORTH 320

300

Toronto, February 7th 1919

Sir Robert Falconer, President,
University of Toronto.
Toronto.

Dear Sir Robert:-

I regret to state that the position of affairs with reference to the staff of the department of Oto-Laryngology is most unsatisfactory.

On the 12th of April last I requested you to have Colonel Royce recalled and after a long delay this request was granted. I regret to say that Colonel Royce has not been released by the military and that I am informed by the A.D.M.S. that he will not be, but, on the other hand he is to bemade to assume my duties in this district, in reply to which I promptly forwarded my resignation.

I may say that this turn of affairs is not only very annoying to myself, but apparently absolutely against the wishes of Colonel Royce, whose duties are many, and whose health is very indifferent.

As, I am also informed by the A.D.M.S., the military clinic is to be removed to the new St.Andrew's College buildings shortly, (as a matter of fact their contract with the T.G.H. expired on the 31st of January) you will readily see that it will be impossible to employ any member of the military staff in University work in my department, except upon the condition that the University time table be drawn up by the permission of the military, which is not to be thought of.

I have at the present moment two only who could be used for University teaching under the circumstances above mentioned, namely:- the removal of the military clinic to St.Andrew's College. These are Major Angus Campbell, who was discharged from the service on the first of February, and Dr. James Sproule-Mason.

There is a possibility that Captain Biggs might be available, because the A.D.M.S. states that he will be discharged, whereas Colonel Royce states he will not agree to carry on without him.

It is quite impossible to give the work of the four or five years with so small a staff and in fact the position as a whole is intolerable.

If you ask what has become of the others mentioned in my communication of April 12th and October 10th, I may say that Edmund Boyd is overseas, A.D.McKelvey is in California, and W.G.McKecknie is at the Exhibition Camp.

After what I have said above, and when I further state that the A.D.M.S. informed me that he did not purpose to make any difference between members of the University staff and others returned from overseas with regard to discharge, I think you will recognize that the only way to approach this subject is for you to make representations direct to the Honourable Minister of Militia, and, pointing out the sacrifices

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made by the impaired University staff in preparing men for service at the cost of teaching for eighteen months without intermission, and discharging the duties of the men who had gone overseas in addition to their own, and requesting that members of the University staff whose release may be asked for by yourself be released instanter.

In making the above statement I have a good deal that I could say with reference to the manner in which the department has acted to-wards myself but I desire to avoid allowing the personal to enter into the discussion.

Yours sincerely,

D. J. Gibb Wishart

March 31st, 1919

Dr. G. J. Gibb Kilgour,

17 Grosvenor street, Toronto.

Dear Dr. Kilgour:

Can you tell me whether or not you are expecting the work in English to be done under the direction of Professor Alexander of University College or do you wish it included in the Faculty of Medicine ? I think that a definite understanding should be arrived at between the Faculty of Medicine and the Department of English in University College in regard to the matter. I believe that it will be necessary for students to be allowed to take their English in other Colleges, but the Faculty of Medicine would require to lay down the lines as to the kind of English that they expect, so that special classes may be given in the Colleges also to cover it, as I think from some questions that I have already had from Chancellor Bowles they are likely to do

May 10th, 1915

Dr. H. J. Gibb Wishart,

47 Grosvenor Street,

Toronto.

Dear Dr. Wishart:

I will take up with the Dean the substance of your letter with regard to the difficulty of securing patients with a view of carrying on the university work in the Ear, Nose and Throat Department in the Toronto General Hospital owing to the occupation of the premises by the military.

Yours sincerely,

President.